



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
RUBEN GRIJALVA, STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

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September 25, 2005

Re: OSFM 2005 Summary of Fireworks Activities

This year CDF/Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) coordinated a statewide action plan involving local, state, and federal authorities to step up enforcement of illegal fireworks (http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/firemarshal/fireworks_enforcement.pdf). The effort resulted in more than 59 arrests and the confiscation of over 200,000 lbs of illegal fireworks. This was more than twice the amount from previous years.

CDF/Office of the State Fire Marshal spent over \$50,000 in this enforcement effort. In addition, my office helped develop a Public Service Announcement (PSA) which was aired statewide on radio and television for 10 days prior to July 4, 2005 to inform the general public about the dangers of illegal fireworks. My office offered public educational materials within the schools (statewide) about illegal fireworks, as well as state approved fireworks.

On June 21, 2005 I went to Nye County, Nevada (a major source of illegal fireworks into California) along with Supervising Arson/Bomb Investigator Joe Konefal to testify before the Nye County Commission to seek their help in reducing the flow of illegal fireworks into California.

CDF/OSFM continues to work with local government to assist with the disposal of confiscated illegal fireworks. The fireworks seizure form is available at the OSFM website at: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/firemarshal/fireworksseizuresprocedure.pdf>

My office provided training to local government (over 250 personnel) on how to inspect professional pyrotechnic shows and took action where pyrotechnic operators failed to meet their legal obligations in Marysville, CA. (<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/firemarshal/MarysvilleReport.pdf>)

We are making tremendous strides in California. However, while my office is responsible for the regulation and disposal of fireworks, much of the responsibility for enforcement rests with local government. I regularly encourage the public to meet with their local fire and law enforcement agencies to discuss fireworks enforcement issues.

My office remains ready to coordinate our efforts with local government based on your available resources toward our common goal. Please feel free to contact me if you have further questions or concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Grijalva".

**RUBEN GRIJALVA
State Fire Marshal**